

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved combination spring-activated mole trap and foot bar, said mole strap that includes two u-shaped members pivotally connected together, each said u-shaped member including an upper arc section and two extending legs, said legs being aligned to form two pairs of clamping jaws, said pair of clamping jaws being biased so that when released, said clamping jaws converge to kill a mole located therebetween, the mole trap also including a trigger rod pivotally attached to one clamping jaw that selectively ~~that~~ holds both said the clamping jaws in an opened, biased position when set and, automatically released when sufficiently moved by a mole, thereby causing releases the said jaws to converge and kill a ~~thereby killing the~~ mole, the improvement comprising:

a. a pair of handles longitudinally aligned and extending from said the upper arc members jaws-enabling said mole trap to be held in a vertically aligned position and inserted into a mole tunnel opening;

b. a limiting means for said trigger rod to prevent excessive upward rotation of the trigger rod when said clamping jaws converge released;

c. a pivoting trigger plate capable of engaging the end of the said trigger rod, said trigger plate being z-shaped with an upper trigger plate and ~~an offset~~, a lower, trigger plate, said lower plate being offset from said upper trigger plate so that said lower trigger plate is placed closer to a mole burrowing under said trap when said trigger rod engages said upper trigger plate, and;

d. a foot bar enabling ~~the~~ said jaws to be manually separated ~~activated~~ by the

1 user's foot pressed downward onto said mole trap, said foot bar including an elongated bar
2 with an arc-engaging surface at one end, so that when said mole trap is aligned longitudinally
3 on a support surface, said arc-engaging surface ~~may be~~ placed against said upper ~~one~~ arc
4 portion on one said u-shaped member and the user's foot ~~may be~~ placed on said elongated the
5 ~~foot~~ bar to force said clamping jaws apart into a set position.

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7 2. (Currently Amended) The improved spring-activated mole trap as recited in Claim 1,
8 wherein said triggeing rod is pivotally attached at one end to one said upper arc section on
9 one said u-shpaed member and extends downward to engage said upper trigger plate to hold
10 said clamping members apart, said limiting means for said trigger rod is being a u-shaped
11 member designed prevent the excessive upward rotation of said trigger rod around said u-
12 shaped member when said trigger rod is released and said clamping jaws converge.

13
14 3. (Currently Amended) A method of setting a spring-activated mole trap, comprising the
15 following steps:

16 a. selecting a spring activated, ~~two-claw~~ mole trap, said mole trap ~~having~~ including
17 two u-shaped members pivotally connected together, each said u-shaped member including
18 an upper arc section and a two extending legs, said legs being aligned to form two pairs of
19 clamping jaws that clamp together to kill a mole, said pair of clamping jaws being biased so
20 that when released, said clamping jaws automatically converge to kill a mole located
21 therebetween, the mole trap also includes a z-shaped plate with a upper trigger plate and a
22 lower trigger plate offset from said upper trigger plate so that said lower trigger plate is closer
23 to the soil located under said mole trap, said trigger rod being pivotally attached at one end

a surface of

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1 to one said clamping jaw and extending downward therefrom to engage said upper trigger
2 plate and block the movement of the ^{opposite said one clamping jaw to} ~~opposite said clamping jaw~~ ^{prevent said pair of clamp} ~~prevent said pair of clamp~~ ^{clamping jaws}
3 ^{from clamping together} ~~member, and a limiting means for said trigger rod to prevent excessive upward rotation of~~
4 said trigger rod when said clamping jaws converge, said mole trap also including two
5 ^{handles} ~~longitudinally aligned handle~~ ^{attached to said upper arc sections on said u-shaped members;}
6 ~~and a trigger plate that release a trigger rod when activated by a mole;~~
7 b. selecting a mole tunnel opening, said mole tunnel opening having a lower soil
8 surface;
9 c. selecting a foot bar ^{activate} used to pry said claws on said trap apart to ~~activated~~ ^{DP 11-4-04} said mole
10 trap;
11 d. activating said mole trap with said foot bar;
12 e. grasping said handles to move said mole trap, and;
13 f. vertically inserting said mole trap into said mole tunnel opening so that said jaws
14 are transversely aligned inside said mole opening and said trigger plate is positioned adjacent
15 to the said lower soil surface inside said mole tunnel opening ~~under said trap.~~